

Washington D.C. -- Today Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) joined with hundreds of Oregonians and hundreds of thousands of men, women and children from across the nation and nearly 60 countries in the "National March for Women's Lives," to affirm support for a woman's right to choose. The march is the first major pro-choice march in Washington DC in 12 years.

"I was proud to join fellow Oregonians today at this historic march for women's lives," said Blumenauer. "Today's march sends a clear message to the Bush administration that we will not stand by and let women's individual right to choose be taken away."

Since 1995 when Republicans took control of the House and Senate, Congress has passed and the President has signed numerous laws criminalizing safe medical procedures for women. In the short time President Bush has been in office, the anti-choice U.S. Congress has voted 31 times on choice-related issues. Pro-choice Americans have lost all but eight of these votes.

"A woman's right to privacy and a woman's freedom of choice are in dire jeopardy," said Blumenauer. "Despite our nation's overwhelming support for reproductive freedom; slowly but surely lawmakers from the White House to state legislative chambers have led an unrelenting assault on a woman's right to choose. Today, hundreds of thousands of men, women and children came together to march in our nation's capital to demand that the White House and the Congress stop their assault on American women."

"People who oppose abortion should not have one," continued Blumenauer. "Nothing would make me happier than for every woman to have the knowledge, well-being, medical care and luck so that there would never be a need for an abortion. Until such a day comes it is just wrong to prevent a woman's doctor from offering professional skills so that she and her family can determine the safest and most appropriate medical care. We marched to today to ensure that we do not go back to a time of back alley abortions where our sisters, daughters, mothers and grandmothers are stripped of basic freedoms."

Congressman Blumenauer Participates in March for Women's Lives

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